

DECEMBER 23, 1808.

Read the first and second time, and committed to a committee of the whole House, on Tuesday next.

A Bill,

Authorizing the issuing of debentures in certain cases.

1 *Sec. 1. BE it enacted by the senate and house of representatives*
2 *of the United States of America, in congress assembled, That the*
3 *comptroller of the treasury be, and he is hereby authorized to di-*
4 *rect debentures for drawbacks of duties to be issued in such cases,*
5 *in which the requisites of the seventy-sixth and eighty-first sec-*
6 *tions of the act, entitled " An act to regulate the collection of*
7 *duties on imports and tonnage," so far as the same may relate to*
8 *making oath and giving bond for exportation, have not been com-*
9 *plied with, in consequence of any omission or negligence of the*
10 *officers of the customs, or of sickness of the party or parties, or of*
11 *the prevalence of the yellow fever: Provided, however, That the*
12 *party or parties, his, her, or their agent, or lawful representa-*
13 *tives, shall apply to the comptroller, in nine months after the pas-*
14 *sage of this act, for his, her, or their debenture or debentures, and*
15 *shall, within that period of time, and previously to issuing the*

16 same, furnish satisfactory evidence, rendered on oath, that some
17 of the causes above mentioned had prevented a compliance with
18 the formalities required: *And provided also*, That no debenture
19 or debentures for drawback of duties, which may be issued under
20 this act, shall be paid until proof is exhibited, in conformity to the
21 said eighty-first section, that the goods, wares, and merchandise,
22 on which the same are allowed, have been landed in some foreign
23 port or place.